

**To:** McGrath, Shaun[McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov]  
**From:** Calanog, Steve  
**Sent:** Wed 9/23/2015 6:57:13 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Winter Discharge Treatment

Thanks - got it

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**From:** McGrath, Shaun  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 11:55 AM  
**To:** Calanog, Steve  
**Cc:** StClair, Christie; Tenley, Clancy; Gray, David; Grantham, Nancy; Allen, HarryL  
**Subject:** RE: Winter Discharge Treatment

Thanks Steve. It is the release lower down on this email chain.

**From:** Calanog, Steve  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 12:55 PM  
**To:** McGrath, Shaun  
**Cc:** StClair, Christie; Tenley, Clancy; Gray, David; Grantham, Nancy; Allen, HarryL  
**Subject:** Re: Winter Discharge Treatment

Shaun - I can coordinate with the NN here in Window Rock.

Christie - Please send me the final final release.

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**From:** McGrath, Shaun  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 11:51 AM  
**To:** StClair, Christie  
**Cc:** Russo, Rebecca; Jenkins, Laura Flynn; Calanog, Steve  
**Subject:** RE: Winter Discharge Treatment

Adding Rebecca and Laura and Steve

Was Navajo Nation included? If not, can someone please get out asap?

**From:** StClair, Christie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 12:48 PM  
**To:** McGrath, Shaun  
**Subject:** Re: Winter Discharge Treatment

Shaun, didn't see NN under R8 or R6's notifications. Do you know who is handling?

**Christie St. Clair**

Office of Public Affairs

Environmental Protection Agency

o: 202-564-2880

m: 202-768-5780

On Sep 23, 2015, at 2:31 PM, "McGrath, Shaun" <[McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov](mailto:McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov)> wrote:

All,

We are cleared to move forward.

Rebecca, please commence the notifications of elected officials.

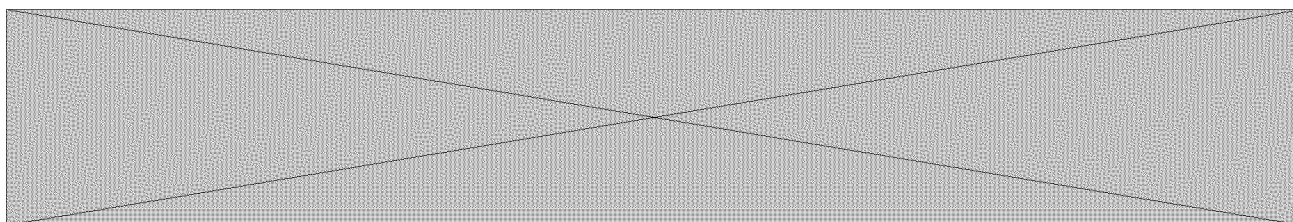
Laura, at 1:30 MST, issue the release to the media.

Thanks,

Shaun

**From:** StClair, Christie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 9:25 AM  
**To:** Gray, David; McGrath, Shaun; Deitz, Randy  
**Cc:** Purchia, Liz; Distefano, Nichole; Ostrander, David; Braun, Richard; Sandoval, Joni; Way, Steven; Mills, Bethany; Reynolds, Thomas; Ackerman, Joyce; Vaught, Laura; Calanog, Steve; Card, Joan; Jenkins, Laura Flynn; Russo, Rebecca; Hull, George; Smith, Roxanne  
**Subject:** Re: Winter Discharge Treatment

All - Here is the final, formatted press release. Once Shaun green-lights, we'll leave an hour for notifications and then send the release to our GKM distribution list + post on the GKM site.



**CONTACT:**  
[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
Sept. 23, 2015

## **EPA Announces Gold King Mine Water Treatment System for Winter 2015-16**

(Washington, DC) -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today that a portable, temporary treatment system will be located in Gladstone, CO (elevation 10,500ft) to continue treating water discharged from the Gold King Mine during winter 2015-16. This system will replace temporary settling ponds constructed by the EPA in August 2015.

The transition to the portable treatment system is necessary as local winter temperatures can reach -20F, making it unsafe to manually treat water at the mine site. The schedule calls for the treatment system to be operational by Oct. 14, 2015. EPA's contractor, ER LLC, awarded a subcontract Sept. 22, 2015 to Alexco Environmental Group (US) Inc. to complete the work.

This system will treat the approximately 550 gallons per minute (gpm) of water that continue to flow from the mine, including the discharges related to ongoing work in the mine to stabilize conditions. The system is designed to handle up to 1,200 gpm. The objective of the treatment system is to neutralize the mine discharge and remove solids and metals. Although the Gold king Mine discharge is just one of many into Cement Creek, the treatment will remove a portion of the metal loading to Cement Creek.

The EPA continues to evaluate data to determine the impact of the Gold King Mine on water quality.

Additional information about EPA's Gold King Mine response: [www.epa.gov/goldkingmine](http://www.epa.gov/goldkingmine)

R256

Christie St. Clair

US EPA Office of Public Affairs

c: 202-768-5780